

Message Text

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53

ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 SNM-02 SS-15 DEAE-00 SP-02

L-03 H-02 OES-03 PA-01 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

NSC-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 IOE-00 OIC-02

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O R 281536Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9180

INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 1247

EOMO. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, UR,

SUBJ: PRESIDENCY OF UN COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

REF: STATE 17503 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY. E. A. BABAYAN, WHO WILL AGAIN HEAD THE SOVIET DELEGATION TO THE FORTHCOMING CND SESSION, TOLD EMBOFFS ON JANUARY 27 THAT THE SOVIETS WOULD "NOT OPPOSE" THE MEXICAN CANDIDACY FOR THE CND CHAIRMANSHIP IN THE FORTHCOMING SESSION, PROVIDED THAT MOSCOW MAINTAINED ITS POSITION AS FIRST VICE-CHAIRMAN AND WAS ASSURED OF MOVING UP TO THE CHAIRMANSHIP AT THE NEXT REGULAR SESSION. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBOFFS CALLED ON BABAYAN, CHIEF, ADMINISTRATION FOR INTRODUCTION OF NEW DRUGS AND MEDICAL EQUIPMENT, AND E.P. SVIRIDOV, MFA, SECOND SECRETARY TO AKS ABOUT SOVIET WILLINGNESS TO STEP ASIDE AND SUPPORT THE MEXICAN CANDIDATE FOR THE CND CHAIRMANSHIP IN THE FORTHCOMING SESSION (REFTEL).

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3. BABAYAN, WHO DID NOT ACKNOWLEDGE THAT MOSCOW HAD MADE

ANY PLEDGE TO THE MEXICANS, SAID THAT THE SOVIET UNION "WOULD NOT OBJECT" TO HAVING THE MEXICANS ASSUME THE CHAIRMANSHIP "IF THIS IS THE WILL OF THE MAJORITY." BABAYAN THEN DIVERGED INTO A DISCUSSION OF THE "LONG-RECOGNIZED" STEP-BY-STEP SUCCESSION PROCEDURE OF CND OFFICERS. WHILE NOTING THAT ILLNESSES IN RECENT YEARS HAD FORCED SUBSTITUTIONS, HE COMMENTED THAT UNDER NORMAL CONDITIONS THERE IS REALLY ONLY ONE ELECTIVE ISSUE, THAT OF THE RAPporteur, SINCE THE OTHERS ARE FILLED AUTOMATICALLY FROM BELOW.

4. HE THEN EXPLAINED THAT SINCE THE FORTHCOMING MEETING WAS A "SPECIAL SESSION," IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO VARY THE PROCEDURE TO ALLOW THE MEXICAN CANDIDATE TO PRESIDE WITHOUT CHANGING THE PATTERN FOR THE REGULAR SESSION SCHEDULED FOR 1977. IN FURTHER DISCUSSION, SVIRIDOV CLARIFIED THAT THE SOVIET POSITION OF "NOT OPPOSING" THE MEXICAN CANDIDACY WAS CONDITIONED ON TWO POINTS: THAT THE MAJORITY AGREES TO SUPPORT MEXICO, AND THAT THE SOVIETS RETAIN THE FIRST VICE-CHAIRMANSHIP FOR THIS SESSION WITH A GUARANTEE OF ASSUMING THE CHAIRMANSHIP AT THE NEXT REGULAR SESSION. THE SOVIETS WOULD NOT, UNDER REPEATED QUESTIONING, CONFIRM THAT THEY WOULD "ACTIVELY SUPPORT" THE MEXICAN CANDIDACY, BUT CAME BACK TO THE FORMULA THAT THEY WOULD "NOT OPPOSE" IT UNDER THE TERMS THEY GAVE. SVIRIDOV SAID THAT THE MEXICANS HAD BEEN GIVEN THE SAME ANSWER.

5. SVIRIDOV ASKED WHETHER THE U.S. POSITION WAS TO SUPPORT THE MEXICAN CANDIDACY. EMBOFFS REPLIED THAT THE U.S. WISHED TO FIND OUT THE SOVIET VIEW AND THAT OUR DECISION WOULD TAKE THAT VIEW INTO ACCOUNT. EMBOFFS DID NOT ELABORATE FURTHER BUT INDICATED THAT THE U.S. FAVORED A CONSENSUS.

6. SVIRIDOV COMMENTED THAT BABAYAN WAS HIMSELF THE PERSON MOST DIRECTLY AFFECTED, SINCE HE WOULD AGAIN LEAD THE SOVIET DELEGATION TO GENEVA. SVIRIDOV SAID THAT HE WOULD ALSO BE GOING AS A MEMBER OF THE DELEGATION. THE SOVIETS SAID THAT THEY PLANNED TO TRAVEL TO GENEVA ON FEBRUARY 14, AND LOOKED FORWARD TO DEALING WITH THE "MUCH LARGER" CONFIDENTIAL

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U.S. DELEGATION THERE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NOMINATION, DRUG CONTROL, MEETING CHAIRMAN, ELECTION CANDIDATES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

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